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The Highlander

Thursday **January 27 2022** | Issue 525

INSIDE: YOUNG ENVIRO HERO MAKING A DIFFERENCE PAGE 18

FREE



Protesters rally in support of animals suspected to inhabit the wetland bordering Gelert Road.
Photo by Sam Gillett.

Protesters objecting to habitat destruction

By Sam Gillett

Environmentalists claim the filling of wetlands on a Gelert Road private property has threatened habitat of at-risk species and Dysart et al's infrastructure.

Leora Berman of The Land Between said filling at the property near Haliburton Highlands Health Services could kill fish and threatened species that have been recorded in the area.

The Land Between said the property is likely home to Grace, a century-old turtle and an at-risk species. Berman said she

cannot disclose the specific species due to regulatory agreements between the Land Between and the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF).

The 2007 Endangered Species Act prohibits damaging habitats of endangered or at-risk species.

The MECP has since become involved, with spokesperson Gary Wheeler saying, "our objective is to ensure that no species have been harmed from this incident. Investigators from the MECPs

species-at-risk branch and environmental investigations and enforcement branch are working as quickly as possible to complete an investigation into how and why this event occurred, along with possible solutions for remediation," he added.

Wheeler said the landowner has stopped filling, agreed to complete a habitat assessment for ministry review, and is following guidance about species-at-risk.

The landowner has so far declined to comment to *The Highlander*.

Since sounding the alarm on The Land Between's Facebook page on Jan.14, the

public has held intermittent protests at the location most days since the filling was noticed. More than 3,400 people have signed a petition online that states its goal is to "save this wetland and the amazing turtles that many in Haliburton know and love."

No enforceable bylaw

Berman and multiple residents who submitted comments to Dysart Council said the township has a responsibility to clarify

Continued 'Public' on page 2

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Highlander news



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Public outrage took off like 'wildfire'

Continued from page 1

and enforce rules pertaining to wetland and species protection.

The area where the filling was noticed falls under environmental protection zoning in the township's official plan. The official plan prohibits site alteration except for "flood control, other water management, or erosion control structures or works, docks and marine facilities.

However, policies set out in the official plan do not represent enforceable bylaws, Dysart et al municipal law enforcement officer Robert Mascia said.

In an email, Mascia said, "Dysart does not currently have a site alteration bylaw in place or any regulation within the zoning bylaw to provide for enforcement."

Berman said the township should have stronger zoning bylaws to prevent habitat destruction. In an email, she said "there are gaping holes in the tools and processes within our own municipality that led to this situation in the first place ... and could lead to many more. If this isn't fixed, our hunting heritage, fishing, and wildlife are at stake. The proper tools are non-existent here, and that takes power away from the people and puts it in the hands of developers alone."

However, building developments such as a proposed condominium on Grass Lake are reviewed by council and the public can weigh in. Site alteration does not require an approval process.

On Jan. 21, Coun. Nancy Wood-Roberts said, "If there's no bylaw to do any sort of enforcement then everyone's hands are tied."

Dysart council regularly passes bylaws, changes previous rules and establishes new ones. So does the County of Haliburton.

At a Jan. 25 council meeting, Dysart mayor Andrea Roberts said the County's

shoreline preservation bylaw is set to help enforce wetland protection.

"We all are in the same geographic area and we all have the same concerns to protect our water," she said.

The bylaw in its current draft would prohibit the site's alteration due to its proximity to wetland, but multiple councillors indicated the bylaw isn't likely to be implemented soon.

Director of planning Jeff Iles and clerk Mallory Bishop said developing a municipal site alteration bylaw may end up redundant or contradictory if the County's shoreline preservation bylaw is passed.

Roberts said public outrage took off like "wildfire" online, and council received numerous written submissions from residents worried about habitat destruction or flooding.

Roberts said some online posts "make it sound like Dysart doesn't care, of course, we do."

Wood-Roberts said council needed to discuss other developments nearby, including the state of the County-maintained Gelert Road, which may have increased flood risks too. "I think they need to look at the historical factors in the property itself and how it became a wetland," she said, prior to council discussions.

Coun. John Smith said he was frustrated it may appear that Dysart council hasn't acted quickly enough.

"How long should we wait for the County to reach a conclusion on something they've been evaluating for three or four years before we as a local municipality take action to protect wetlands in our community?" asked Smith.

Council directed Iles to contact the Ontario government to find out what provincial allowances or restrictions may exist on the land.

Increasing risk of flooding

If wetlands aren't protected, the County could face increasing flood risks, said Paul Heaven, a senior wildlife biologist and environmental consultant at Glenside Ecological Services Limited.

"Every wetland plays a significant role in flood attenuation so it's definitely having an impact," Heaven said.

In an area such as Gelert Road near Haliburton Highlands Secondary School, wetlands act as a sponge for water that would otherwise flow over the road.

Heaven said wetlands should be a key concern for County council and its townships.

"Any further loss in wetlands will result in greater flooding potential all throughout the County. We really have to start paying attention to wetlands large and small," he said.

Heaven has worked with the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust to map two provincially-significant wetlands in the Highlands.

"Most of our wetlands in our County have not been evaluated, and the issue we have in the County is we don't know where the wetlands are, or they're not properly mapped and defined," Heaven said.

Zoning a wetland as provincially significant means it's protected from development on a provincial level. Barring a Ministerial Zoning Order, which the Ontario government has recently attempted to use to overturn such embargoes, Highlands wetlands deemed provincially-significant would be protected from site alteration or development.

Highlander news

Affordable housing build to front onto Halbiem

By Mike Baker

Dysart et al council has supported a new plan that would see a reimagined affordable housing development originally slated for Wallings Road temporarily front onto Halbiem Crescent.

The project, proposed by Places for People (P4P) in September 2020, has been in a state of delay for months, with a dispute between Dysart township and the County over the ability of the Wallings/County Road 21 intersection to handle increased traffic.

A suggestion to close off the Wallings/CR 21 intersection and create a new two-way road into Halbiem was proposed last fall. Land owners along Halbiem voiced their opposition to the plan on Nov. 23, 2021, citing various safety concerns.

Mayor Andrea Roberts noted at the Jan. 25 meeting that council's preferred position was to maintain access to Wallings directly from CR 21, but that decision ultimately lay with the County. A new traffic study of the intersection has been commissioned by County staff, with results expected later this year.

In an attempt to get the project moving, P4P president Jody Curry suggested a new plan for the site, which includes a temporary solution of providing driveway access to the site off Halbiem. Addressing other concerns brought forth by council last year, she also suggested P4P could lower

the number of units. Originally, Curry said the project was only viable if P4P could construct 48 units, but said this week they could move ahead with a plan to build fewer.

Jeff Iles, Dysart's planning director, informed council those units would be situated on a .92 acre plot along Wallings Road. The land is being sold to P4P for \$2 to support the project.

Development is still a long way off. The latest approval from council allows P4P to come up with a new site plan for the .92 acre plot. Other items, such as building permits and connection fees, will be discussed at a later date. A public meeting will also be scheduled in the near future.

Coun. John Smith wasn't happy about that. He wanted council to clearly outline what other contributions the municipality would be making to the project, pointing out a letter of intent previously signed by the township and P4P was vague.

"Some of us are concerned about the amount of municipal contribution to this project. The municipality is already providing the property for \$2, which is a tremendous contribution. Any additional contribution in terms of waiving fees, like we typically do when a developer shows up with their own land ... would be inappropriate," Smith said.

He also sought assurances future residents would come from Haliburton County.



The Places for People affordable housing project is slated for Wallings Road. *File.*

He spoke to an agreement P4P has with the Kawartha Lakes Haliburton Housing Corporation, which provides housing to those in need across the region. It could see individuals from Lindsay moved to Haliburton and into the new development.

"We need to remember this is a part of the affordable housing target program, which is a County initiative. We have the right to choose our tenants," Curry responded.

She clarified that not all units will be classified as affordable. She expects 30 per cent will be made available to lower-income

individuals, with the remaining offered at market, or above market rent.

Coun. Larry Clarke was keen to point out that Smith's comments and surmizations were his own, and not a reflection of the rest of council.

"I see the role of our council to look at the longevity of this community, and we need affordable housing. There has to be an investment from the township to make that happen. It may cost a few extra dollars, but it benefits the entire community and our future," Clarke said.

Dysart receives \$23,618 in gas tax funding

By Mike Baker

MPP Laurie Scott announced Dysart et al will receive \$23,618 in gas tax funding this year, with the money supporting the municipality's Dymo bus accessibility program.

Funding for the gas tax program is determined by the number of litres of gasoline sold in the province during the previous year. Municipalities supporting public transit services receive two cents per litre of gas tax revenue collected in their community, Scott noted.

This funding can be used to extend

service hours, buy transit vehicles, add routes, improve accessibility or upgrade infrastructure.

This year, the province is dishing out \$375 million to 109 municipalities. To make up for reduced gas sales last year due to COVID-19, Scott noted this year's gas tax pool includes one-time additional funding of \$120.4 million to ensure municipalities can support their transit systems.

The Dymo bus has been operating in Dysart since 1989, said CAO Tamara Wilbee. It is designed to assist individuals with mobility difficulties, or those who require the assistance of a wheelchair-

accessible vehicle to move around.

The vehicle is equipped with a lift and automated ramp. The service provides transportation to individuals on a temporary or permanent basis, depending on the user's eligibility.

The bus travels to five areas within Haliburton County, and makes regular trips to Lindsay, Peterborough, Bracebridge, Barrie, Oshawa, Toronto and Kingston. It also assists with long-term care facility and medical transfers.

Fees to take the bus range from \$6 to \$47 depending on where you live and your desired destination. Anyone wanting

to travel outside of Haliburton County is billed \$1.50 per kilometre. Trips to Lindsay, Peterborough or Bracebridge cost a minimum of \$300, while trips to Barrie, Oshawa, Toronto or Kingston cost a minimum of \$200, plus \$50 per hour while in use. Dysart's website notes these trips typically only take place when six or more people sign up, bringing the per person cost down to between \$50 and \$100.

Wilbee said caregivers, attendants, guide dogs and service animals are welcome to accompany someone taking the bus at no extra charge.



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Highlander news

'Promising' signs prompt easing of COVID rules

By Sam Gillett

Highlands restaurants, gyms and bars have been cleared to re-open at 50 per cent capacity on Jan 31.

"The evidence tells us that the measures we put in place to blunt transmission of Omicron are working," said Premier Doug Ford in a Dec. 20 press release. "We can be confident that the worst is behind us and that we are now in a position to cautiously and gradually ease public health measures."

Along with clawing back business restrictions, indoor gathering limits will rise to 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors. The Minden arena and other sporting or performance venues will be able to run at 50 per cent capacity.

On Feb. 21, capacity limits in restaurants and bars will be lifted completely, as well as most indoor public settings where proof of vaccination is required.

In March, all indoor public spaces won't have capacity limits, and private indoor gatherings will be capped at 50 people, with no capacity limit outdoors.

Find a full list of updated rules at the bottom of this article.

Local signs of hope

HKPR chief medical officer of health Dr. Natalie Bocking said she sees "promising indicators" the region's COVID-19 infection rate is close to plateauing.

The region's test positivity rate, at about 13.3 per cent, is down from a peak of 21 per cent in early January.

While PCR COVID-19 testing is limited to high-risk people or those who work in high-risk settings, Bocking said the infection number and positivity rate can still indicate a falling caseload.

Test positivity has plateaued at around 13 per cent. That's higher than other points in

the pandemic but lower than rates of nearly 30 per cent in early January.

"We could see a peak at the end of the month, or fingers crossed, potentially a bit sooner than the end of the month," said Bocking at a Jan. 19 media information session. "We do have reason to have some optimism and looking forward to coming out on the other side of this wave."

Haliburton has recorded 327 lab-confirmed cases of COVID-19 since the start of the pandemic, with nine cases as of Jan. 25.

Dr. Bocking said that while the unit is recording more hospitalizations due to COVID-19 than ever - 22 patients on Jan. 20 - the Omicron variant is often less dangerous than previous waves of COVID-19.

"We are not seeing the same level of illness as the first wave," she said.

Roadmap to reopening

The following rules will come into place Jan. 31 at 12:01 a.m.

- Increasing social gathering limits to 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors.
- Increasing or maintaining capacity limits at 50 per cent in indoor public settings, including but not limited to: restaurants, bars and other food or drink establishments without dance facilities; retailers (including grocery stores and pharmacies); shopping malls
- Non-spectator areas of sports and recreational fitness facilities, including gyms;
- Cinemas;
- Meeting and event spaces;
- Recreational amenities and amusement parks, including water parks;
- Museums, galleries, aquariums, zoos and similar attractions;



The province is urging people to get their first, second and booster vaccinations. *File.*

- Casinos, bingo halls and other gaming establishments
- Religious services, rites, or ceremonies.
- Allowing spectator areas of facilities such as sporting events, concert venues and theatres to operate at 50 per cent seated capacity or 500 people, whichever is less.

On Feb. 21:

- Increasing social gathering limits to 25 people indoors and 100 people outdoors.
- Removing capacity limits in indoor public settings where proof of vaccination is required, including but not limited to restaurants, indoor sports and recreational facilities, cinemas, as well as other settings that choose to opt-in to proof of vaccination requirements.
- Permitting spectator capacity at sporting events, concert venues, and theatres at 50 per cent capacity.
- Limiting capacity in most remaining indoor public settings where proof of vaccination is not required to the number

of people that can maintain two metres of physical distance.

- Indoor religious services, rites or ceremonies limited to the number that can maintain two metres of physical distance, with no limit if proof of vaccination is required.
- Increasing indoor capacity limits to 25 per cent in the remaining higher-risk settings where proof of vaccination is required, including nightclubs, wedding receptions, in meeting or event spaces where there is dancing, as well as bathhouses and sex clubs.

On March 14:

- Lifting capacity limits in all indoor public settings. Proof of vaccination will be maintained in existing settings in addition to other regular measures.
- Lifting remaining capacity limits on religious services, rites, or ceremonies.
- Increase social gathering limits to 50 people indoors with no limits for outdoor gatherings.

INFORMATION PAGE

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A Message from the Fire Department

It only takes a few measures to prevent a grease fire.

- Do not leave your cooking unattended.
- Do not fry frozen food in oil.
- Do not rush deep frying, the oil needs to heat slowly.
- Keep flammable items like oven mitts, towels, and curtains away from the cooking area.
- Store heavy lids and cookie sheets near the stove to use in case of a grease fire.

WASTE REDUCTION TIP

Electronic Waste such as old televisions, computers, monitors, etc. is accepted at the Scotchline Waste Disposal Site and Recycling Centre free of charge. For more information on recycling in Minden Hills, download the Haliburton County Waste Wizard mobile app on your Apple or Android device.

WINTER SAND

Winter sand is now available at the upper parking lot of the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Community Centre, by the Skate Park. Please note this is for Individual Use Only - No Commercial Users please.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

We are currently looking to fill a variety of positions within the Township. Many opportunities include benefits such as enrollment in a comprehensive benefit package, Employee Assistance Plan, life insurance, personal health coverage, OMERS pension plan, vacation, float and sick time entitlements as well as opportunities for training and development. Please visit our website at www.mindenhills.ca/employment-opportunities/ or email sprentice@mindenhills.ca for a list of available jobs and how to apply.

Municipal and School Board Election

Will be held on Monday, October 24, 2022. The Township of Minden Hills will be offering three different ways to vote in the 2022 Municipal Election.

✓ Internet ✓ Telephone ✓ Traditional Paper Ballot

Watch for more information and updates as it becomes available on our website at www.mindenhills.ca.



(Virtual) Council Meetings

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted virtually via web conference meetings, until further notice. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted. The schedule of upcoming meetings are:

January 27 - Regular Council Meeting

February 10 - Regular Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link available on the township website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/ or by using the direct link provided in the notice. Meeting agendas are not displayed during the meeting, please download by visiting our website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/.

Please note the live-stream link provided for each meeting will only be activated while Council is in session.

Highlander news

Omicron forces temporary daycare closure

By Lisa Gervais

Haliburton Wee Care administrator Denise Wolm said the community has been “understanding” in the wake of the daycare’s decision to close temporarily effective Jan. 26 after seven positive COVID cases and the need for others to isolate.

Wolm contacted *The Highlander* this week to say, “after almost 22 months, COVID has now touched us personally. Yes, we have not had one single case ... until now. One case or 10, or anywhere in between, it is overwhelming and stressful for everyone involved,” she said.

She added knowing the severity of the spread of the Omicron variant, they understood that opening schools could accelerate community spread.

Wolm said she and staff felt it was “inevitable” that this would happen “given how people are feeling ‘done’ with this and want to just live their lives.”

She said the last two pandemic years have brought “ups and downs” and been stressful but the daycare is a family that is there for each other.

She expressed some frustration in saying, “As everyone is probably aware, child care has rarely been mentioned throughout this pandemic except to say that, after the first lockdown, we must remain open no matter what, we are essential to keep the economy rolling.

“We get thrown little tidbits of how valuable we are but when it comes to our well-being and protection, we are pretty low on the list. Information is doled out for us



Haliburton Wee Care administrator Denise Wolm in happier times, when the County took over the daycare in 2019. File.

to decipher, sometimes two to three, even four times a week. It’s ever-changing and often makes no sense, but we soldier on and do the best we can with the information we are given.”

She added government rules and regulations are difficult in a childcare setting.

“Our little ones can’t and don’t wear masks, social distancing isn’t even fathomable in the under four-year-old set, and when they are hurt, sick or even just sad, we can’t stop and think about COVID, we just do what we always do and give them our love and undivided attention.”

Wolm said to top it off, new cleaning protocols were put in place to stop

the spread, adding another layer of responsibility to those already stretched to the limit.

She said rather than it being a news story, she wanted to emphasize. “We have an incredible community I can say I’m proud to be a part of. Our Haliburton Wee Care family includes our staff and their families, our children and their families, and our supporters such as Point in Time, City of Kawartha Lakes Children’s Services Department and Public Health, which she said are “short-staffed, overwhelmed and expected to provide all of the answers to the community in all different settings.”

Wolm said, “Once the announcement was made that we have COVID in our

centre, there was no judgement, there were no harsh words of derision, there was no blame. What there was is staff pulling together to support each other through an even more stressful time, even while they were fearful about bringing it home to their loved ones. There were parents and family members offering words of support, encouragement, and even praise as to how we have been handling everything previously and currently.

“There has been nothing but compassion and understanding from everyone and from the bottom of my heart, with tears of appreciation in my eyes, I thank everyone for this. We will get through this together as we always have.”

ALGONQUIN HIGHLANDS NEWS

Record-breaking year

Chief building officer David Rogers said 2021 was Algonquin Highlands’ busiest year on record for construction values, permit revenues and number of permits issued.

During a Jan. 20 meeting he said year-end construction value stood at a little over \$42.5 million, while the municipality collected \$368,045 in permit fees after

issuing 346 building permits and 114 septic permits.

Rogers noted 2022 had “gotten off to a good start” with eight building permit applications being submitted as of Jan. 19.

The municipality investigated 121 bylaw complaints last year, of which 110 have been fully resolved. Rogers said the hiring of a new full-time bylaw officer, to be brought on board this year, would be a big help to the department.

‘A job well done’

Integrity commissioner Harold Elston congratulated council on three years of clean governance at the meeting.

Since March 1, 2019, Elston said he has been contacted on 13 occasions to provide advice on issues surrounding conflicts of interest and municipal procedure. He received one inquiry, relating to a resident’s lease of a hangar at Stanhope Airport,

but Elston found the complaint did not contravene the municipal Code of Conduct.

With a municipal election coming in October, Elston said his responsibilities as integrity commissioner would cease Aug. 19. Any incomplete inquiries prior to that will be terminated, and only commenced if another inquiry relating to the matter is made within six weeks of Oct. 24.

(Algonquin Highlands news compiled by Mike Baker).



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Highlander news

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Housing a big theme as rural mayors meet

By Lisa Gervais

Haliburton County is not alone in facing a “trifecta” of challenges - affordable housing, employment and transportation - delegates to the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) conference heard Jan. 24.

ROMA chair Robin Jones, who is the mayor of The Village of Westport, said the association was looking to the future with a new plan for action, but still advocating for the immediate needs of its member municipalities.

One issue is affordable housing. To that end, Jones said ROMA was pleased to meet with the Ontario government just prior to the conference about the association’s desire for a full spectrum of housing options.

“Lack of affordable housing has hit our communities hard,” Jones said. “And unlike some urban markets, this is a new phenomenon for rural communities. And it is tough on our residents.”

She said that every time ROMA has discussed the issue in recent months, the “trifecta of affordable housing, and in particular reasonably-priced rental accommodation, employment and transportation” comes up.

“So, in my community, which is similar to many of yours, we have a large tourist industry and we have lots of jobs but we don’t have rental accommodation. So, to get staff to come take the job, they have to go to the closest municipality, which is 25 km away, and guess what? There’s no transportation. I’ve heard that from many of you.

“The challenge of affordable rental accommodation for employees is tough without transportation. This is just one aspect of the complexity of the housing needs and requires a full spectrum of housing approach.”

Jones said the meeting with the province was just the start of a conversation. She added the solutions will require commitment and flexibility to reflect rural circumstances and how current government policies constrain progress.

While Premier Doug Ford met with the rural leaders Jan. 23 prior to the conference starting, there have been no public announcements, as there have been for larger centres. However, in his address to the conference this past Monday, he said, “it’s an issue that affects rural Ontario just as much ... the lack of supply that makes home ownership slip further from people’s reach every single year.”

He blamed “the crisis” on previous governments which he said “put ideology over the needs of Ontarians and allowed the supply of needed housing to fall behind what’s required.

“We can’t and won’t wait any longer to address this crisis and deliver the housing options that all Ontarians need.”

During the conference, there were three plenary sessions on housing. Homelessness in Rural Ontario: Challenges and Opportunities was chaired by Minden Hills Coun. Pam Sayne, who sits on the ROMA board. One of the research team during a presentation was Fay Martin of Minden Hills.

The other two sessions were: Filling the Housing Information Gap in Rural Communities and Innovative Housing Solutions in Rural Ontario.

Martin and her research partners found that compared to city dwellers, a higher percentage of people from rural Ontario reported they had experienced homelessness or hidden homelessness at some point in their lives, with the rural number 9.7 per cent and the urban 7.5 per cent.

They added hidden homelessness was



Coun. Pam Sayne sits on the ROMA board and chaired a plenary session on homelessness. *File.*

also more prevalent in rural areas. They included: staying in tents or RVs; in substandard housing; couch surfing or overcrowding; survival sex [offering sex in exchange for housing] and staying in motels or single rooms. This was in addition to: squatting or sleeping outside; living in bush camps; sleeping in vehicles or staying in

shelters.

Some of the other themes at this year’s ROMA conference included: working with Indigenous Peoples, poverty reduction, community safety and well-being, improving connectivity, opportunities for post-COVID recovery, health care and climate change.

The Township of Minden Hills

SNOWSHOE

hikes!

"Snowshoe Snowdon"
Monday January 31st 1-3pm
Snowdon Park (meet in parking lot)

"Discover the Dahl"
Monday February 14th 1-3pm
Dahl Forest (meet in parking lot (on Geeza Rd))

"Wild Ways of White Water"
Monday February 28th 1-3pm
White Water Preserve (meet in parking lot off Horseshoe Lake Rd)

Cost: \$10 per hike

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Highlander news

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Dysart budget second draft sitting at 5.5 per cent increase

By Mike Baker

Dysart et al council has trimmed some fat from its proposed 2022 budget, with a second draft proposing a 5.5 per cent tax levy increase for area ratepayers.

Municipal officials discussed the budget Jan. 14, removing several items that were included in the original document. Presented in December, the first draft included a tax increase of 7.56 per cent.

The new rate, presented before discussions began Jan. 14, is offset by around \$130,000 in increased revenues and a decrease of \$82,000 in operating and capital costs. Council would shave off an additional \$35,000 through their later discussions.

Treasurer Barbara Swannell noted the proposed increase would see residential property owners pay an additional \$16.35 per \$100,000 of MPAC assessment in 2022, with commercial owners set to pay an extra \$24.24 per \$100,000 of assessment and industrial owners to pay a further \$28.09 per \$100,000 of assessment.

Despite the proposed increase, Swannell said Dysart still had, by far, the lowest municipal taxes in Haliburton County.

"The cost per \$100,000 of assessment for residential property in Dysart was \$297.44 in 2021. In Algonquin Highlands, at \$344.10, the ratepayer is paying \$36.66 more than if they lived in Dysart, or 12.3 per cent more," Swannell said. "The trend continues in Minden Hills, who pay 29.1 per cent more. In Highlands East, residents pay 70.6 per cent more.

"A 5.5 per cent levy increase in 2022 still results in Dysart being the lowest tax rate within member municipalities in Haliburton County," she added.

During the meeting, council signed off on hiring a new summer bylaw officer at an undetermined cost; to increase services at the Harcourt, Kennis Lake and West Bay landfill sites (\$6,133); increase volunteer firefighter pay by \$2.50 per hour; and dish out approximately \$70,000 in grants and donations to community organizations.

They decided against spending \$10,000



Council will meet again to discuss the budget on Feb. 11. *File.*

on a new digital sign at the Haliburton welcome centre; said no to the Haliburton Highlands Museum hiring a summer employee at a cost of \$11,100; and deferred decisions to hire new full-time staffers in the planning and parks and recreation

departments at an annual cost north of \$100,000.

In 2022, Dysart is projecting to spend just over \$18.5 million. Municipal reserves sit at \$3.6 million. Council will meet again to discuss the budget on Feb. 11.

TLDSB continues COVID recovery

By Mike Baker

TLDSB director of education Wes Hahn said three classrooms across TLDSB schools have temporarily reverted back to online learning over the past week due to outbreaks of COVID-19.

"We want students to remain in school, but we're looking at sudden spikes or abnormalities in high illnesses within a classroom. That's a particular concern for us, because it could mean further spread of the virus within the whole building," Hahn said.

Impacted students and staff will be required to isolate at home for a minimum

of five days before returning to in-person learning, Hahn said. He would not divulge the location of the impacted classrooms.

With public health no longer conducting PCR testing and contact tracing at schools, Hahn said a new absence reporting tool has been made available to the public, to help the board track the number of absences board-wide.

Hahn addressed talk of a 30 per cent "absenteeism threshold" that has been used by public health previously for outbreak tracking and to suggest temporary site closures.

"Once a school hits that mark, we are in direct contact with public health, but there's

more to it that just the absenteeism part ... if we reach 30 per cent, that doesn't mean we're moving the school online or closing the school. A lot of those absences might be explained absences, where students are remaining home [at a parent's discretion], taking a vacation, or doing something family oriented," Hahn said. "We have to be careful that we don't look at that 30 per cent mark and act too quickly."

Hahn said he was actually encouraged by the COVID-19 numbers being reported by schools, saying there hasn't been as many outbreaks since the return to in-person learning as he had anticipated.



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Editorial opinion

TheHighlander

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To report on issues, people and events important to the community.

To reflect and promote pride in the culture, people and landscape of The Highlands.

To encourage Highlanders to believe in themselves, in our community, and in their power to make our place in the world better every day.

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Livestreaming a pandemic boon

As a journalist, and member of the public, I often reflect on the pandemic and what changes it has imparted on our society.

Naturally, the list of cons often surpasses the pros.

However, there have been some silver linings for the fourth estate and I would argue that also translates to some wins for the general population.

For example, earlier this week I was able to attend the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) annual conference.

That was because it was virtual. So was the 2021 one. In the pre-pandemic past, the conference was held in Toronto and it wasn't feasible for a small-town newspaper such as ours to send a journalist there for the two-day conference. It would have been costly with transportation, accommodation and meals.

So, if we did a story - and we didn't always - we relied on our municipal councillors to come back and tell us what had gone on.

On Jan. 24-25, I was able to watch it myself, either live or recorded.

For a newspaper editor, it was a win-win. As a taxpayer, I also did not have to foot the

bill for our councillors to attend in-person. The con for them is that they enjoy the casual conversations that often arise at these conferences, making valuable connections. However, there is still the option of reaching out to someone who spoke out during a session and touching base in other ways. It does not have to happen in a bar with a drink in hand.

In the same manner, I was able to attend the Ontario Municipal Association (AMO) conference.

For the public, I think the live streaming of council meetings has been a pandemic gift. In the past, it has been difficult for some people to attend council meetings because they are held during the day and require driving to one of the municipal offices. Now, people can view from their homes either live or recorded.

There are times when only a handful of people are watching, but on other occasions, such as the recent shoreline preservation bylaw meeting, there were close to 80 at some points during the meeting.

As a reporter, I can truthfully say that my reporting is more accurate now as well. I can go back and check what people

have said. There is no longer an opportunity for subjects to say that they have been misquoted.

The other real benefit to journalists, and some members of the public, is the livestreaming of court proceedings. In the past, we rarely, if ever, would drive to Lindsay to cover a court matter. Now, if there is something major on our radar, we can follow the proceedings.

Since the nature of the court system is a lot of deferrals, we are not wasting as much time waiting for matters to be finalized either as we might have in the past. Nor are we having to email the Ministry of the Attorney-General's office or the courthouse in Lindsay to see what is going on with a particular case.

It is the type of access that we should have had all along. It is the type of access that we cannot be denied in future. After all, if we can improve our reporting, the public is better served.



By Lisa Gervais

LETTERS

The other side to 'long road back'

Dear editor,

Our MP, Jamie Schmale is alleging that the federal Liberal government has exacerbated inflation through its "spending habits." In the interest of accuracy, it is not true the Bank of Canada is "printing money at a record-breaking rate." (Source: bankofcanada.ca/2020/08/our-covid-19-response-large-scale-asset-purchases/) This is simply the federal Conservative Party's current scare tactic with no concrete suggestions as to what might be done to resolve matters.

Every developed country is grappling with the inflation issue, and there is no one solution. Canada has one of the lowest overall rates at 4.8. Lower than Germany (5.3), the United Kingdom (5.4), and the United States (7-plus). Source: tradingeconomics.com/country-list/inflation-rate?continent=g20

Among the causes of inflation are the global pandemic, difficulties with global supply chains, OPEC cutting oil supplies, a degree of corporate price-gouging, and high consumer demand for goods in short supply.

If, indeed, the federal government's spending habits are to blame, where would Mr. Schmale reduce spending? Cut funding to veterans and seniors - as Mr. Harper did? Cut funding to lower-income families desperately trying to find affordable child care and make ends meet? The Ontario Conservative government under Mr. Ford, continues to reject the Liberal proposal of \$10/day child care which has been accepted by the other provinces and territories.

Should we cut funding for affordable housing - which we all know is desperately needed in HKLB and across the country.

Should health-care funding be slashed, or funding for municipalities, or support for small business? Surely, as Shadow Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Mr. Schmale would not contemplate cutting our continuing commitment to Indigenous communities and Reconciliation?

Rest assured the current federal government remains committed to helping Canadians through this crisis by offering financial support to those who have been most impacted and where it is most needed.

Judi Forbes
Beaverton

Editor's note: Judi Forbes was the Liberal candidate for HKLB in the 2021 federal election.

Lack of skilled labour

Dear editor,

Re: Jan. 20 edition on lack of skilled labour.

In your article of Jan. 20, the new County director of economic development and tourism, Scott Ovell, is quoted as saying that "the realities of today's economy call for new direction, ideas and approaches to enhance economic growth, attract investment and ensure that opportunity continues to be a significant part of the County's quality of life."

Agreed! But isn't that his job? Isn't that the reason the County has hired a supposedly experienced economic development officer, one that is cited on the next page as being a "big-ticket budget item?" Instead, Mr. Ovell's first course of action is to spend more money to hire outside consultants.

There is a wealth of knowledge right here

in the County, there are stakeholders eager to share their ideas and experience, there are previous County and consultants' reports gathering dust on municipal office shelves, there are colleagues on Council who have insight into the subject matter.

Would a newly-appointed economic development officer not first make an effort to get to know the local businesses and gather the information under his feet before bringing in the so-called experts?

As a local business owner and taxpayer, I am appalled that someone who doesn't seem to have much interest in the community has been hired at significant cost to do nothing more than spend more money.

Reiner Arnold
Gooderham

Decision doesn't make sense

Dear editor,

The editor of *The Highlander* is not alone in wondering why council has decided to hire an expensive consultant instead of tasking the newly hired director of economic development and tourism to develop the strategy that his department will follow into the future.

I certainly don't pretend to know the details of his job description or the rationale behind the decision but as a taxpayer I would sure appreciate if a representative of the committee of the whole and/or Mr. Ovell himself would explain their reasoning. The decision just doesn't seem to make sense from the outside looking in.

Cindy Thistle
Minden Hills

Editorial opinion

LETTERS

Simple and effective

Dear editor,

In the Jan. 20 edition of *The Highlander*, it looks like our new economic development officer is going to hire external consultants to do what is essentially his job.

Perhaps Mr. Ovell could take a page from Tracie Bertrand's playbook: Ms. Bertrand is also newly hired, as tourism manager for the County, and she has been driving around the area meeting with stakeholders, gathering information, and asking for input as she settles into her new job. How refreshingly simple and effective.

B. Kraus
Highlands East

Seeks shoreline bylaw 'accountability'

Dear editor,

Haliburton County councillors, most (or all) of whom are not waterfront property owners themselves, continue to move forward with plans to approve the very controversial proposed shoreline preservation bylaw, following recommendations from consultants who appear to be largely oblivious to the concerns and productive suggestions of those most impacted.

While the main objectives of this bylaw – preserve water quality and prevent shoreline erosion – are objectives we all share, measures (septic inspection, site alteration and tree removal) currently exist to provide necessary protection.

Recent research reported that the majority of Haliburton lake shorelines are “natural” or “regenerative” and my repeated requests for a factual explanation of any “evidence” to justify further costly government oversight, remain unanswered. So, what exactly is the “burning platform” that justifies this additional regulation? Neither council nor its consultants have answers.

There is zero desire to consider a plan to focus only on the few lakes in need of remedial attention. The bylaw's appeal appears to be its administrative convenience.

Finally, and of most concern to Haliburton taxpayers, a fully-costed, long-term financial plan does not appear to have been created. Such a plan must include not only annual administrative costs to process permits, perform site inspections and police/penalize offenders, but also the costs to undertake and report the results of future, scheduled water quality testing of all county waterways to assess the impact, if any, this added regulation has had on water quality and shoreline erosion, assuming said impact is even attributable, given the many natural variables which can also affect water quality.

That's called accountability, the ongoing measurement of the cost/benefit outcome of spending hundreds of thousands (millions?) of taxpayers' dollars on a questionable new bylaw and unnecessary bureaucracy.

Dave Love
Haliburton Lake

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Steven Sherwood sent in this photo taken at Elliot Falls.

Shoreline bylaw should be sent back

Dear editor,

About 25 years ago, I was paddling towards the south end of Dreg Lake when from a distance I saw what reminded me of a toothless smile. As I got closer, there was someone mowing and I asked why he had taken down the trees and put in lawn. He replied that he wanted to be able to see the lake. I assured him that I had been here for more than half a century and it had never gone anywhere, and suggested he could replant. He didn't.

More and more monster cottages are going up, whether it's to show the world how much money they have, and how little they care for forests, or a clever plot which allows them to say they were at the cottage with the family, omitting that because the eight-bedroom mansion they built allowed them to breathe the same air as their family without the burden of having to spend time with them.

If you want a lawn, stay in the suburbs. And any fines proposed by the bylaw should be on the edge of egregious. Bot if 10, 25-year-old trees are cut down and all native plants dug up, the perpetrator should be fined \$10,000 to \$20,000 depending on lot-size, which would allow the County to replace the fully-mature trees with some at least 10-years-old, with enough left over to buy an acre's worth of native plants.

Anne-Marie Borthwick
Haliburton

Fight COVID with better ventilation

Dear editor,

According to experts, such as Dr. Isaac Bogoch, “we are 20 times safer (that is 20 times, not 20 per cent safer) from COVID

when outside rather than inside.”

Wouldn't it be great if we could make our indoor spaces that safe? Wouldn't it be even better if our indoor spaces were also safer from new mutations that are sure to happen?

Surprisingly, we know exactly how to do this. It is relatively easy and very cost effective.

It might sound too simple, but the way to make everyone safer is through safe ventilation systems. Not just for schools (where it is slowly happening) but for all indoor spaces including offices, warehouses, factories, shopping malls, restaurants and even for houses and apartments.

Several years ago, ASHRAE (the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers) developed readily available standards for most, if not all, indoor spaces and published their standards for all to see.

What is needed is for provincial governments to incorporate those standards into their building codes and to provide timelines and incentives to make it happen. Implementing those standards would also provide protection from new viruses, the annual influenza, common colds and even Legionnaire's Disease. It would improve the general health of everyone and healthy people are generally happier and more productive.

The immediate push-back would probably be that this would be very expensive, but that is a myth. Numerous studies in Europe and the USA have shown that the financial and health benefits from safer ventilation systems and reducing air pollution at source would far, far outweigh the implementing costs. If the number one priority of all politicians is the safety of their population, then this is the answer.

Dennis Choptiany
Koshlong Lake

A good news story

It could've been a bad news story if not for the kindness of strangers. On Jan, 16, a mere minutes from my destination, I found myself stuck in a ditch on a not often travelled road, off of Kennisis Lake Road, about 20 minutes from West Guilford.

I was really looking forward to some ‘off the grid’ down time in nature, with my puppy Georgia, five hours away from home in a tiny little cabin, nestled in the beautiful Haliburton Forest.

After backing up to let another car pass (shame on you blonde lady in the white SUV for telling me to call CAA as you drove past and left me there), I found myself stuck in deep snow, by myself, a car full of gear and a puppy who just wanted out to play in the snow.

Within minutes, a very kind couple, out snowshoeing on a beautiful, cold winter day, came to my aid and within another few minutes, a man on an ATV and a fellow in a dark SUV all stopped to help. After trying to push/pull me out (a good 45 minutes or more in the cold), it was obvious that I was really stuck and would need a tow truck to get me out. By that time, I was in a state, quite upset and on the verge of tears.

I thank the kind couple; the gentleman in the SUV, Mark Dennys of Century 21, Granite Realty; the gentleman on the ATV, Jim Bowie, a local cottager; Bob from Cabinscape and John from West Guilford Towing (via CAA).

With all the craziness in this world (including COVID), I'm so very grateful to you all for helping me and showing me that there is still goodness and kindness in people. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. I had a really wonderful week at the cabin and I hope to visit your beautiful area again sometime soon ... perhaps when it's warmer.

Julie-Anne Lizewski
Goderich, ON

Highlander health

HEALTH NEWS

Post-COVID improvements

The HKPR District Health Unit has identified 12 areas of staffing, workplace culture and operations to focus on as it plans a post-COVID-19 recovery.

A COVID recovery working group, established in the summer of 2021, spent September interviewing more than 100 staff about areas of improvement, and what the health unit did well throughout the past two years.

"The goal of this framework is to consider the impact of the pandemic and consider the lessons we've learned, rather than simply returning to a pre-COVID state," said Lorna McLeary, a manager in the health promotion division.

She presented the working group's findings at a Jan. 20, 2022 board of health meeting.

Some themes that arose during interviews included: continued engagement with community leaders; partners and volunteers; balancing the stress of working multiple roles; the importance of maintaining a feeling of tight-knit community on staff teams; program planning based on population size; prioritizing equal access to health services and maintaining the health unit's public visibility.

McLeary said the results are a "starting point for decision-making" when it comes

to the planning and execution of health unit programs.

Risk management update

Ontario health units are required to have a risk management plan detailing operational dangers and plans to minimize them.

Chief medical officer of health Dr. Natalie Bocking said the health unit's progress on implementing the plan has been "stymied by COVID-19 several times now."

Developed in 2018, a risk management framework lays out eight top dangers the organization could face: failure to develop, implement and evaluate a robust people strategy; inadequate records management system; loss of funding; compromised personal health information; improperly managed procurement opportunities; non-compliance of infection, prevention, and control practices; Ontario Public Health Service program compliance and payroll fraud.

COVID drives communication uptick

Dr. Bocking said the HKPR communications team continues to be "extremely busy" with COVID-19 adding new tasks and initiatives to the department's workload.

Along with facilitating 47 media information sessions in 2021, they fielded 2,201 media inquiries and issued 85 press releases.

The health unit's website traffic has doubled to 2,674,418 webpage views and a 1,245 increase in the unit's YouTube following.

Dr. Bocking said the health unit has focused on increasing the use of social media to spread health messaging, and user interaction on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter, which have risen since 2020.

Quit tobacco for good

If your New Year's resolution to go tobacco-free in 2022 has already gone up in smoke, now's the time to get back on track, the health unit said.

"If your goal is to quit in 2022, there are many resources available to help you succeed," said Karen Taylor, a public health nurse with the HKPR District Health Unit.

Area residents 18 years and older are urged to sign up for STOP on the NET. If they qualify for the program, participants will be mailed a free eight-week supply of nicotine patches to help them quit smoking.

"Nicotine patches greatly improve the chances of quitting smoking, but some people may not be able to afford them," Taylor said. "With STOP on the NET, nicotine patches are provided free of charge and this initiative has helped many people

successfully quit their tobacco addiction once and for all."

STOP on the Net also has many resources to assist people trying to quit, including Talking About Vaping videos that address different aspects of e-cigarette use.

"COVID-19 has been very stressful on people's physical and mental health, and may lead to tobacco use for some individuals," Taylor said. "It's incredible what you stand to gain from going tobacco-free, and the good news is that you reap the benefits right away."

Sexual health clinics on hold

The health unit has put a pause on offering sexual health clinics in the region due to its COVID-19 response.

It said it is "for the time being so that nurses and other staff can be redeployed to pandemic response." The decision came as COVID-19 cases were on the rise in the region.

Clients who had an appointment booked are being contacted directly to make alternate arrangements.

The Health Unit encourages anyone with concerns relating to their sexual health to contact their primary care provider or attend a walk-in clinic. (Health unit news compiled by Sam Gillett and Lisa Gervais)

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Highlander education

TLDSB plan champions student development

By Mike Baker

Trillium Lakelands District School Board director of education Wes Hahn introduced a new five-year strategic plan to trustees Jan. 25, saying it will help foster student development and achievement.

In the works since last spring, the plan outlines two goals Hahn said were designed to “create a future where students develop the competencies, understandings, self-confidence, and resiliency to lead healthy, successful and fulfilling lives.”

The first goal surrounds supporting meaningful learning and success for students, while the second focuses on creating learning environments and experiences that foster equity, inclusion and belonging.

“We talked a lot about ensuring this plan is real, it’s authentic, it’s manageable, and, most importantly, narrowing down to areas that we can really focus on and not something that we just put on a shelf,” Hahn said. “We believe we’ve done that with this document.”

Vancouver-based Critical Thinking Consortium was brought in to assist. A key component was a public survey, which asked parents and guardians what they felt were the most important areas TLDSB should consider to support student achievement over the next five years. Nearly 5,000 people responded.

Covering 2022 to 2027, the strategy highlights four commitments.

“We will be adopting an ‘open to learning’ stance; monitoring our impact, which is critical; universalize and differentiate so that we can separate our community needs, or staff needs and our school needs and ensure there’s diversity across our system for how we plan; and unwavering commitment and focus on student achievement and well-being,” Hahn said. “Those are critical commandments that will guide how we go about our work with those particular goals.”

“We are also going to commit to measuring and aligning our processes. The strategic plan acts as a guidance system, while our board improvement and equity plan serve as the measurement tool. That’s where we will, through the board plan, use our quantitative and qualitative data to measure our commitment in our process along our strategic plan. And it’s all aligned with our school improvement and equity plans. The better we are aligned, the more committed and focused we can be on achieving these goals.”

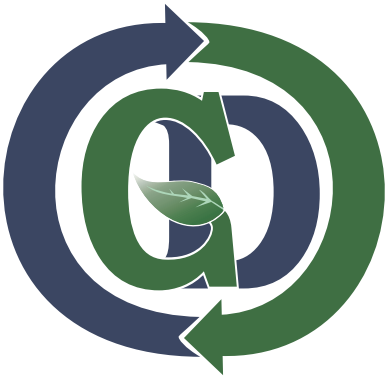
Trustee Judy Saunders said she liked the approach Hahn and his staff took in developing the new plan, saying it was easy to follow and outlined important, achievable targets. Vice-chair Stephen Binstock agreed, calling it “simple, but not simple-minded.”

Binstock told Hahn. “Now the hard work begins.”



TLDSB director of education Wes Hahn said the board’s new five-year strategic plan will help students achieve their academic goals. *File.*

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CENTURY 21
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Boice proud to represent home community

By Mike Baker

Growing up, West Guilford native Joe Boice felt he'd have to leave his hometown to chase his hockey dreams. Now, as a key part of the Haliburton County Huskies' inaugural roster, he wants to show local youth they can forge their path to the big leagues in the Highlands.

The 6'3" power forward has been ever-present for the community's new Jr. A franchise this season, suiting up in 29 games. While yet to register a point, Boice leads the team in penalty minutes and plays a crucial role in the checking game.

He's often the first guy that head coach, Ryan Ramsay, turns to when he needs to inject some life into a game.

"A big energy guy, I'm a rougher kind of player," Boice said of his style. "Definitely not much of a goal scorer, I just do whatever I can to help the team. If that means throwing a hit, going to the dirty areas, or making a defensive play, then so be it."

Like teammate Ryan Hall, Boice represented the Highland Storm during his youth. He won an Ontario Minor Hockey Association championship with the team in 2015, before going on to play two seasons with the Central Ontario Wolves, based in Lindsay.

That move helped mature his game. Often playing against older, and bigger players, Boice said he learned a lot from his time playing AAA. That progression as a player led to an OJHL call-up in 2020. Boice featured in seven games for the Whitby Fury, getting his first taste of junior hockey.

"I remember loving it," Boice said. "It was a big step, definitely a quicker game, but my goal was to always play junior. I made it."

He committed to the team for the 2020/21 season, but COVID-19 had other ideas. Not content to simply wait on the sidelines, Boice spent his year off skating wherever and whenever he could. He worked on his stick handling, aiming to be a more complete player once he returned to the ice.

It was a dream come true when he learned that return would come in Haliburton County.

"It's definitely much better being at home. Just being able to play in front of my family and my home town, it's obviously a lot nicer playing for people that you know," Boice said. "It's extra motivation for me every time I step onto the ice when I look up to the crowd and see familiar faces



Joe Boice, who grew up in West Guilford, has enjoyed being a role model to local youth during the Haliburton County Huskies' inaugural season. Photo by Tim Bates.

everywhere, cheering us on."

While he grew up idolizing Matt Duchene and Bernie Nicholls, NHLers that grew up in the Highlands, the County's youth now have a new set of players to look up to through the Huskies.

"It's definitely important, I think, for the younger kids. They can realize now that they can play good hockey in this community," Boice said.

The path to junior hockey isn't an easy one, he warned.

"Not every player is going to make it. Obviously, you have to have some skill, but I'd say commitment is the biggest thing you need. You've got to give 110 per cent all the time," Boice said. "If this is what you want, you've got to give it all you've got."



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CENTURY 21



Ramsay brings pro experience to Huskies

By Mike Baker

After a 15-year love affair, Haliburton County Huskies head coach and general manager Ryan Ramsay thought he had closed the book on his hockey career when a serious hand injury forced him into premature retirement in 2015.

Playing for the Schwenninger Wild Wings in the Deutsche Eishockey Liga, Germany's pro hockey division, Ramsay, 31 at the time, took a rogue puck off the hand during a regular season game. While the injury seemed innocuous at the time, x-ray results told another story.

"I completely shattered my hand. I had three major surgeries to try and fix it, but I could never get back to the level I needed to be at to play professionally," Ramsay said.

It was a bitter pill to swallow. Since being drafted 13th overall by the Peterborough Petes in the 1999 OHL Priority Draft, Ramsay had been living the life of a professional hockey player. He played five seasons in the OHL, finishing top 10 in the league scoring charts in his senior year with the Plymouth Whalers.

After unsuccessful tryouts with the Nashville Predators and Carolina Hurricanes, Ramsay penned a three-year contract with the St. Louis Blues in 2004. He was immediately assigned to the team's AHL affiliate, the Worcester Ice Cats, where he put up 18 points and 93 penalty minutes

in 46 games in his debut season. Ramsay played two more seasons in the AHL before moving to Europe.

He played for six teams over an eight-year period in Germany and Italy.

"It was probably the best time of my hockey career," Ramsay recalled.

When it all came tumbling down, Ramsay looked for a clean break. He moved back to North America, enrolling at Texas A&M University. He wanted to be a firefighter.

Upon graduation, and while applying for positions across the continent, Ramsay launched a hockey school, designed to teach youth the basics of the game. That transitioned into a part-time coaching role with a minor hockey team, which opened Ramsay's eyes to a whole new world.

"I fell in love with coaching right away. Pretty well after my first day, I knew that's what I wanted to get into," Ramsay said.

He continued with his Ramsay Hockey camps until 2016, when he became head coach of the North York Renegades of the Greater Metro Jr. A Hockey League. He spent two seasons with the team, blossoming into one of the league's top up-and-coming coaches.

It was a tough grind, though. The learning curve was steep, and Ramsay said he often looks back and laughs at some of the situations he found himself in during those fledgling months. Ultimately, he found success merging what he knew as a

professional player with what he learned from some of his own coaches over the years.

"I've been coached by Pete DeBoer (Vegas Golden Knights head coach), Don Granato (Buffalo Sabres head coach) was the head coach during my first year in the AHL. Mike Vellucci (Pittsburgh Penguins assistant coach) was my coach at Plymouth in the OHL. Then, in Europe, I was coached by Dave Chambers, a legend who was with the Quebec Nordiques and Team Canada world junior teams.

"I've really tried to translate a lot of what I learned from them into the kids I'm coaching now," Ramsay added.

He transitioned to his current role during the 2018/19 season, shortly after Haliburton resident Paul Wilson bought the franchise. Then known as the Whitby Fury, Ramsay spent 12 months in the front office before merging the general manager and head coach responsibilities ahead of the 2019/20 season.

Between running practices, studying tape, managing players and recruiting, the gig is a full-time job and more.

"It's the first thing you do when you get up and the last thing you do before you go to bed. My wife's a part of it, my kids breathe it every day. I wouldn't have it any other way though, it's a great game," Ramsay said.

He had no qualms about moving north



Haliburton County Huskies head coach and general manager Ryan Ramsay. Submitted.

once the decision was made to relocate the franchise to Haliburton County. His wife, Hilary, grew up in the community, and the pair made frequent visits while they were living elsewhere.

"I always knew Haliburton was a great community, full of great people, but the support we have received since moving up here has been tremendous," Ramsay said.



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Highlander outdoors



COUNTY OF HALIBURTON LAND DIVISION COMMITTEE NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CONSENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 53(5)(a) of the Planning Act and Section 3, O.Reg. 197/96, as amended, that the following Applications for Consent have been submitted to the Haliburton County Land Division Committee, the consent granting authority in these matters.

AND FURTHER THAT An electronic meeting will be held **February 14th, 2022 at 7:00 P.M.** to consider these applications.

AND FURTHER THAT this meeting will be held through remote electronic participation in accordance with the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended.

The media and the general public can view the Land Division Committee meeting webcast via the County of Haliburton YouTube channel which can be found on the County's website by searching the land division committee (<https://youtu.be/XsEe0YxOg6A>).

AND FURTHER THAT these Applications for Consent will be heard by the Land Division Committee:

1. File No. H-004/20 (AH)
Applicants: Barber and Ronchka
Location of the Property: Pt Lot 14, Concession 6, Geographic Township of Stanhope
Nature of the Application: Condition Change (reconveyance of Shore Road Allowance)
2. File No. H-029/21 (MH)
Applicants: Hewitt
Location of the Property: Pt Lot 3, Concession A, Geographic Township of Minden
Nature of the Application: New lot in the Village of Minden
3. File No. H-030/21 (MH)
Applicants: Bonis
Location of the Property: Pt Lot 3, Concession 5, Geographic Township of Lutterworth
Nature of the Application: New lot to separate two existing cottages onto separate lots
4. File No. H-031/21 (MH)
Applicants: Phillips
Location of the Property: Pt Lot 23, Concession 6, Geographic Township of Lutterworth
Nature of the Application: Lot addition to allow for a garage to be built
5. File No. H-001/22 (MH)
Applicant: Edwards
Location of the Property: Pt Lot 17, Concession 5, Geographic Township of Lutterworth
Nature of the Application: Right-of-way (lapsed Consent H-017/20)

Additional information regarding the above applications is available for public inspection electronically by request during regular business hours, Monday to Friday, from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

If a person or public body that files an appeal of a decision of the Land Division Committee in respect of the proposed consent does not make written submissions to the Land Division Committee before it gives or refuses to give a provisional consent, the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal may dismiss the appeal.

If you wish to be notified of the decision of the Land Division Committee in respect of the proposed consent, you must make a written request to the undersigned.

Dated at the Township of Minden Hills on January 20, 2022.

Michele Moore
Acting Secretary-Treasurer
Haliburton County Land Division Committee
11 Newcastle Street
P. O. Box 399
Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0
Telephone: (705) 286-1333 or 1-866-886-8815, Ext. 239
Fax: (705) 286-4829
E-mail: mmoore@haliburtoncounty.ca



Rick Whitteker makes a trail by snowshoe beside the Gull River. Photo by Sam Gillett.

Tours explore winter life by snowshoe

By Sam Gillett

Cold temperatures and regular snow mean Haliburton County's forests, fields and riverside pathways are ripe for snowshoeing.

Minden Hills is launching three guided snowshoe walks across the township in January and February for those new to the activity and more seasoned trekkers alike.

The attraction is moving slowly through nature, and being able to take everything in at a really slow pace," said Rick Whitteker, a longtime snowshoe enthusiast who'll be guiding the tours.

The walks include the peaceful Snowdon Park, the ecologically-diverse Dahl Forest and a trek alongside the Gull River rapids, flowing fierce and fast beside snow trails.

Whitteker said snowshoeing is a way to appreciate wildlife which, in other seasons, move unseen.

Beside the Gull River, for instance, Whitteker bends down to inspect the miniature pawprints of a mouse that recently scurried past.

"You see animal tracks for instance, you see the story of the animal as it's moving

through nature, a glimpse of it," he said. "It's not something you can see in the other three seasons."

It's also a way to beat the winter blues.

"[It's about] getting exercise, being invigorated by being out in nature and getting your heart rate up. Especially in the winter when people hunker down a lot," Whitteker said.

Each hike will begin with a brief introduction to the area and a chat about any safety precautions, however all three hikes can suit most walking abilities.

Whitteker said he tries to combine movement with a careful eye to nature interpretation, stuff he might see on the trail such as prints or vegetation with the "potential to create a discussion."

Each hike costs \$10 and snowshoes are available to borrow.

Snowshoe Snowdon will be on Monday, Jan. 31 from 1-3 p.m.; Discover the Dahl on Monday, Feb. 14 from 1-3 p.m.; and Wild Ways of White Water on Feb. 28, from 1-3 p.m.

For more information contact Elisha Weiss at 705-286-2808 or eweiss@mindenhills.ca



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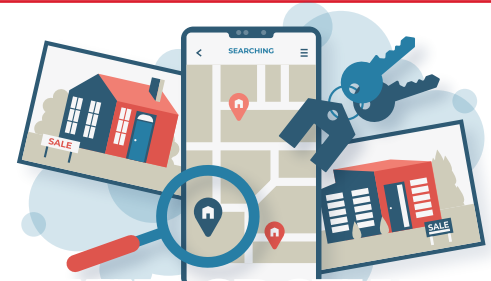
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Highlander environment



Climate change coordinator Korey McKay talks with EH! and Concerned Citizens of Haliburton County during a rally in November. *File.*

Building a community climate committee

By Sam Gillett

The County's community climate change plan is gathering momentum.

Climate Change Coordinator Korey McKay is inviting community stakeholders and council representatives to join an advisory committee that will provide feedback as the plan is developed.

McKay thinks she'll have a list of potential members to present to County council by February, with a Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP) expected in 2023.

Already, municipal council members such as Coun. Pam Sayne of Minden Hills and Suzanne Partridge of Highlands East have put their names forward.

McKay has already developed a greenhouse gas inventory, estimating emissions from County buildings, cars, industry and government operations.

The Community Climate Action Plan goes a step further. It will aim to minimize the community's impact on a warming climate through action items, which could include green development incentives, bylaw ideas, community initiatives and more.

Climate projections show a possible 4°C rise in temperatures in the County by 2100.

Small temperature rises can have drastic consequences.

"If your body temperature changes by a couple of degrees, you'll probably feel terrible and might need medication," McKay said.

"The reality is climate change is happening here not just in the arctic, it is happening now, though it is predicted to get worse in the future," she said at a Jan. 11 virtual Enviro-Cafe hosted by

Environment Haliburton! (EH!).

McKay said municipalities are "uniquely suited to drive climate action," since they can direct development, make bylaws, establish waste management practices and offer incentives for residents to retrofit homes.

Engaging Haliburton County residents is a vital piece in the puzzle, she told attendees.

"It will certainly be important to engage those who aren't typically involved in these questions."

It's likely the cafe attendees aren't the demographic McKay will struggle to engage.

Groups such as EH! and Concerned Citizens of Haliburton County have been advocating for climate action for years. "Enviro-cafes are part of Environment Haliburton!'s attempt to foster climate conversations across the County," said vice president Terry Moore as he opened the discussion.

Non-profits such as U-Links or the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust have crafted multiple research projects that dive into the impacts climate change and ecological conservation can have on the Highlands and surrounding regions.

Those groups likely won't be the people unconvinced by the County's focus on climate.

"It will certainly be important to engage those who aren't typically involved in these questions," McKay told enviro-cafe listeners.

That may include informational campaigns, as well as forums for discussion as the CCAP is developed.

She said it's important to focus on the co-benefits of trying to slow down climate change and mitigate its effects. For example, showing how warming temperatures can affect winter tourism activities.



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2022 Municipal Election Joint Compliance Audit Committee Members

The Corporations of the Township of Algonquin Highlands, the Township of Minden Hills, the Municipality of Dysart et al and the Municipality of Highlands East, are currently seeking interested applicants from professionals who are required to adhere to codes of standards of their profession, and other individuals with in depth knowledge of the campaign financing rules of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 for appointment to a **Joint Compliance Audit Committee**.

The Joint Compliance Audit Committee has full delegation of the authority in the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, to address applications requesting an audit of a candidate's election campaign finances. This authority includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Review applications and grant or reject audit requests
- Where an audit is granted, appoint an auditor and review the audit report
- Where indicated, decide whether legal proceedings shall be commenced.

The Joint Compliance Audit Committee will consist of members appointed by each Council. Committee members must have the ability to understand and apply the election campaign finance provisions of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* and should be considered impartial with respect to their ability to fulfill their responsibilities. Preference shall be given to candidates that have applicable experience in accounting, law, law enforcement and academics from related fields.

Preferred Qualifications:

- (a) Accounting and audit – accountants or auditors with experience in preparing or auditing the financial statements of municipal candidates;
- (b) Academic – college or university professors with expertise in political science or local government administration;
- (c) Legal; and
- (d) Other individuals with knowledge of the campaign financing rules of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996.

Members of the public interested in serving on this Committee are asked to submit a resume, and covering letter, marked "Confidential" no later than Noon on January 28, 2022 to:

Robyn Rogers, Clerk
Corporation of the Municipality of Highlands East
2249 Loop Road, P.O. Box 295, Wilberforce, ON K0L 3C0

For further information, please contact Robyn Rogers, Clerk by email at rrogers@highlandseast.ca

We thank all applicants for applying, but only the selected candidates will be contacted. Personal information and supporting material is collected and used in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.



Blake Parkinson is "over the moon" at his award. *Submitted.*

Teen planet protector is an 'Enviro-Hero'

By Sam Gillett

Blake Parkinson said he was "a little bored" at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

So, the Grade 8 student picked up a camera and started chatting about his passion: protecting the environment.

Two years later, Parkinson hosts live discussions on social media, a podcast about sustainability and even a digital magazine. And, he's been recognized for his work.

Parkinson was recently awarded a youth Enviro-Hero award from the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust, after being nominated by Kirsten Sixt of the Lake Kashagawigamog Organization.

"I was like 'woah!' I was over the moon with joy," Parkinson said.

The HHLT said Parkinson's education initiatives and fundraisers show dedication to environmental education. He's organized shoreline cleanups and a save beluga whales campaign at his school, as well as a World Wildlife Fund swim fundraiser at his family's cottage on Black Lake.

"It really started with my family and then I said you know what I want to encourage more people to be environmentally-friendly," he said.

On his Planet Protectors Instagram page and website, Parkinson tells viewers how to make recyclable Christmas ornaments, shares news about animal protection on the podcast and has even started a digital magazine that summarizes international efforts such as the United Nation's sustainable development goals.

"My main goal is to encourage people to live more sustainably and think more about the environment in their everyday lives," he said.

Parkinson faces the camera with a confident smile. "You might not have thought about this, but sunscreen actually

does have a negative impact on lakes," he said, framed by tall trees lining the shores of Lake Kashagawigamog.

It's from an episode of Blake on the Lake, a series of environmental tips and tricks Parkinson delivers through The LKOs YouTube channel.

"When we do really small things it is a big change," he said, chatting about Planet Protectors' daily sustainability prompts and tips. Some ideas Parkinson gives out are simple, such as unplugging electronics when not in use or using paper straws.

"It's those small things you can do," he said. "Saving the planet doesn't need to cost money."

He encouraged Highlanders to approach tough environmental issues such as the proposed shoreline preservation bylaw with an eye to the past and future. "Approach [issues] slowly, give it time. You also need to think more on the environmental side: how are animals going to be affected, how are ecosystems going to be affected?" he said.

Parkinson said his dream job is to work for the U.N. on climate action.

With scientists worldwide calling for urgent action to mitigate rising temperatures, he said change is possible.

"I see hope, I see a world that is in our hands. We have to mold it the best it can be," he said. "We don't have that much time to do it, we need to act as fast as possible."

Parkinson and the other Enviro-Heroes will be recognized at an awards ceremony at a later date.

Planet Protectors' website:
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Canada

What's on



Ron Murphy at a previous Lions Polar Bear Challenge. *File.*

Lions donate despite canceled Polar Dip

The Haliburton Lions' Polar Bear Challenge is a yearly fundraiser inviting brave swimmers to collect money for childhood cancer day Feb. 15. It's been canceled due to COVID-19 concerns once again, however the Lions are still donating \$750 to nearby cancer clinics.

"Childhood cancer day is the day we remind our community that the Haliburton Lions are here to help," wrote Lion Gail Stelter, chair of the Haliburton Lions childhood cancer committee.

The club donated \$500 to the Garron Family Cancer Centre and \$250 to the childhood cancer clinic at Peterborough Regional Hospital.

Stelter said the Lions are "here for any local family for whom childhood cancer is a reality. Just contact me or any member of the Haliburton Lions and we will help. There are many avenues and ways we can help a family. We serve and childhood cancer is a pillar of service dear to our hearts." (*Sam Gillett*).

WHAT'S ON

Thursday, Jan. 27, 7:30 pm

Environment Haliburton!, in collaboration with Climate Action Muskoka and Seniors for Climate Action Now will present a webinar featuring Dr. Gordon Laxer, political economist and professor emeritus from University of Alberta. Dr. Laxer will talk about a report he wrote called "Posing as Canadian: How Big Foreign Oil Captures Canadian Energy and Climate Policy" which was published by the Council of Canadians. It reveals how foreign fossil fuel interests influence Canadian governments and elections. Please register in advance at environmenthaliburton.org. Contact Susan Hay for more information at hayfield@tcc.on.ca

Tuesday, Feb. 8, 7:30 p.m

Environment Haliburton! Enviro-Cafe presents David Robertson, researcher, educator and activist who will review Premier Doug Ford's climate policies. Register in advance at environmenthaliburton.org. Q and A to follow. More info: tmoore7031@gmail.com

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Thursdays: general meeting the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. All members urged to attend. Ladies' auxiliary the last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.

Fridays: meat draw - five draws, five prizes each draw, first draw at 4:30 p.m., last draw at 6:30 p.m., six tickets for \$2 per draw. Ed Pickard, MC and Friday fun darts from 4:30 p.m.

Saturdays: 50/50 draw 4 p.m. draw - tickets are \$1 each available from 2 p.m.

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NOTICES

**Say No to Condos on
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fograsslake@gmail.com
by Friends of Grass Lake

SOLUTIONS FOR JANUARY 27

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|---|---|---|----|----|---|----|---|
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| 20 | A | P | P | L | E | 21 | | | | | | 22 | I | T | S |
| 23 | I | M | A | L | L | Y | 24 | O | U | R | S | 25 | | | |
| 27 | A | P | I | E | | 28 | E | R | N | E | | 29 | S | Y | S |
| 30 | T | S | N | | 31 | E | L | H | I | | 32 | R | U | E | |
| 33 | | | | | 34 | H | R | E | E | C | H | E | E | R | S |
| 37 | | | | | 38 | A | G | T | | O | E | D | S | 39 | C |
| 42 | I | T | S | N | O | 45 | F | R | A | T | | 46 | T | I | T |
| 47 | S | H | E | D | | 48 | S | U | N | D | A | 49 | Y | B | E |
| 50 | R | E | A | L | M | E | N | | | | 52 | G | O | O | N |
| 53 | A | S | R | E | G | A | R | D | S | | 56 | U | N | C | A |
| 58 | E | E | C | | 59 | B | L | U | E | S | 60 | B | E | E | F |
| 61 | L | A | H | | 62 | S | Y | N | C | S | 63 | E | S | S | E |

OBITUARIES





In Loving Memory of
Colleen Morrison
(nee Miller)
(Resident of West Guilford, Ontario)

Peacefully at Haliburton Hospital on Saturday afternoon, January 22, 2022 in her 92nd year. Devoted wife of the late Orval Morrison. Loving mother to Iris Miscio. Fondly remembered by her grandson Evan (Michelle) and by her great granddaughter Alessandra. Dear sister of Allen (Delaine). Predeceased by her brother Karl, her sister Doris, her parents Edward & Pauline Miller (Miller's Store) and by her son-in-law Carl Miscio. Also lovingly remembered by her nieces, nephews and by her sister-in-law Georgina Miller "Toots." Colleen enjoyed reading, working in her gardens and most of all spending time with her family.

Private Visitation & Funeral Service

Friends are invited to call at the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy #118 Haliburton, Ontario 705-457-9209 on Thursday afternoon, January 27, 2022 for Funeral Service in the Chapel at 2 o'clock. (Visitation one hour prior). Attendees are required to RSVP to this visitation as attendance is limited. Proof of your second COVID -19 vaccine and government photo ID is required to attend this event. Masks must be worn. Interment later at Maple Lake United Church Cemetery. As an expression of sympathy, donations to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario or a charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family.





In Loving Memory of
Betty (Smith) Sawyer

Passed away peacefully at Grand River Hospital in Kitchener on Tuesday January 18th 2022. Wife of Robert Budd Sawyer. Predeceased by her son Devin (2012), Mother of Lisa Meadows (Sawyer) of Cambridge and Gail Sawyer of Kitchener. Cherished grandmother and great grandmother. Betty will be sadly missed by her brothers Les and Carl of Haliburton, sister in laws, nephews, nieces and friends. Cremation has taken place, burial will be held on June 9th, 2022 at 1pm at Maple Lake United Church Cemetery

GOING AWAY?

Read the complete paper online each week.
Sign up at
TheHighlander.ca



In Loving Memory of
W. Shawn Cooke
59.03.11 - 22.01.19



Shawn moved back to his original home 30 years ago. The Highlands were where he wanted to be. If you met him even once, he left a positive impression with you. Shawn was known for his humour and smooth charisma. He would fix small engines with no problem, he loved the sound of motors; have a conversation with anyone, ride his "pretty" ATV to his special places, boating at Hawk Lake and campfires at home. He enjoyed his job on Roads 6, 7 and 14; many people will miss their early morning wake up honks.

He was my special friend for 28 years and I will miss his loyal support and love. His daughter Kori and grandson Taylor were a major part of his life; they kept him on his toes. Taylor loved that he could be silly with Grumpa. Special thanks to; Brian/Sue, John/Marie, Bonnie/John, brother Lee, Ash, Susan, Jeff, Wayne, Brian, Laurie, Paul M, Al/Pen and Carl. He leaves behind very special friends from both the Highlands and the Dundas area, too many to mention.

He left to be with his mother Lil, sister Maureen, probably singing old country songs together; and fishing with Roy.

With Continued Love, your best friend Lori.

No Service is being planned at this time. Memorial donations can be made to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHSF) and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.

Hughes, Lorraine Patsy

Peacefully, at the Haliburton Highlands Health Services, Haliburton, on Saturday, January 15, 2022.

Lorraine Hughes, age 72 of Wilberforce, was the beloved wife of Malcolm Hughes. Loving mother of Michael Hughes, Chris Hughes, and Pattie (Herb) Donaldson. Loved grandmother of Malcolm, Keisha, Justice and Nicole. Great-grandmother of Matthias. Remembered by her many family members in New Brunswick, and friends.


At Lorraine's request, there will be no visitation or funeral services. Cremation has taken place. As expressions of sympathy, donations to The Highlands East Food Hub (Wilberforce Food Bank) would be appreciated by the family.

Arrangements entrusted to M.G. Daly Funeral Home, Maynooth. (613) 338-3259 (Condolence messages may be e-mailed to dalyfuneralhome@bellnet.ca or visit www.mgdalyfuneralhome.com).



IN MEMORIUM

In loving memory of
TOM RIVERS
AUGUST 8, 1962 - JANUARY 29, 2016



Tom Tom,

*Time has not been our friend
as it has flown by.*

*I have learned that not all things in this grief can
be fixed, nor subsided, but only carried.*

*You are a true constant in my mind of cherished
memories... and your laugh!!!*

*Always so close to my heart. Still my favourite
hello and my hardest goodbye.*

Highlander classifieds

HELP WANTED



Township of Algonquin Highlands requires a Deputy Chief Building Official / By-Law Officer

The Township of Algonquin Highlands is seeking applications from qualified persons for the position of Deputy Chief Building Official/By-Law Officer.

Algonquin Highlands offers a competitive salary and excellent benefits package. Join a dedicated team that strives to make us the best place to live, work and play.

Visit our website at: www.algonquinhighlands.ca for the full job description.

Please submit your resume and cover letter by
3:00 p.m. on Friday, February 18, 2022 to:

Dawn Mugford-Guay
Human Resources Coordinator
Township of Algonquin Highlands
1123 North Shore Road
Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1J1
Email: dmugfordguay@algonquinhighlands.ca

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APT FOR RENT – 1 Bdrm, near hospital. Available February. Contact DW text 705-457-0710

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CANOE – 14ft Langford “Heritage” canoe, Cedar strip. New last year, hasn’t been in the water. \$5,500. TRAILER – 6ft X 12ft Aluminum Apogee folding trailer. New last year. \$5,500. DRUMS – 5 pc Pearl \$500. Call John at 705-457-7987

WANTED

SCRAP VEHICLES – Cars, trucks, farm equipment. Site cleanup. Contact DW text 705-457-0710

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HELP WANTED



Full-Charge Bookkeeper (Contract)

RPM Marinas is looking for a full-charge bookkeeper to join our fun, friendly team.

This is a great opportunity for a team-player who wants to get their teeth into the books of two companies
- one of which has multiple locations.

You’ll be an experienced self-starter who is happy multitasking, and you’ll have first-class communication, organizational and customer service skills. You’ll also be good at software such as Microsoft Excel, the Google platforms, and QuickBooks. Experience with CDK LightSpeed is an asset.

This is a 12-month contract to cover a maternity leave, with potential to extend.

Typical Duties include:

- Managing the full-cycle accounting functions, working closely with the team to prioritize deadlines and business needs
- Processing accounts payable and accounts receivable
- Managing bank/credit card and general ledger reconciliations, as well as payroll processing
- Analyzing balance sheet accounts on a regular basis
- Preparing government remittances for payroll, HST, EHT, WSIB, and subsidy.
- Payroll processing bi-weekly, including all remittances and reporting
- Preparing month and year-end working documentation
- Researching and reconciling discrepancies and ensuring that the accounting is in good order.
- Support team members with other duties and task as required such as answering phones etc.
- Occasional weekend, evenings are required, plus travel to other locations.

Job Type: Full-time 44 hours/week (contract with potential for extension)

Salary: based on experience

TO APPLY, EMAIL CHERYL@HALIBURTONRPM.COM

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Staanworth

Staanworth Non-Profit Housing Corp., the largest affordable housing provider in Minden Hills, is seeking new volunteers to enrich its Board of Directors. If you want to make a tangible contribution to our community, please consider joining the Staانworth Board.

If you have experience in general management and administration, financial management or asset management, we would like to hear from you. Skills and experience in engineering, project planning, project management, affordable housing or previous board experience would all be welcome strengths. We are looking for positive team players with strong communication skills who can help us fulfill our mission to provide safe, well-maintained affordable housing opportunities for independent living in Minden Hills for seniors and families.

Please tell us about your interest in affordable housing and highlight your skills and experience by e-mail to:
John du Manoir at StaanPres@bell.net

Highlander puzzles

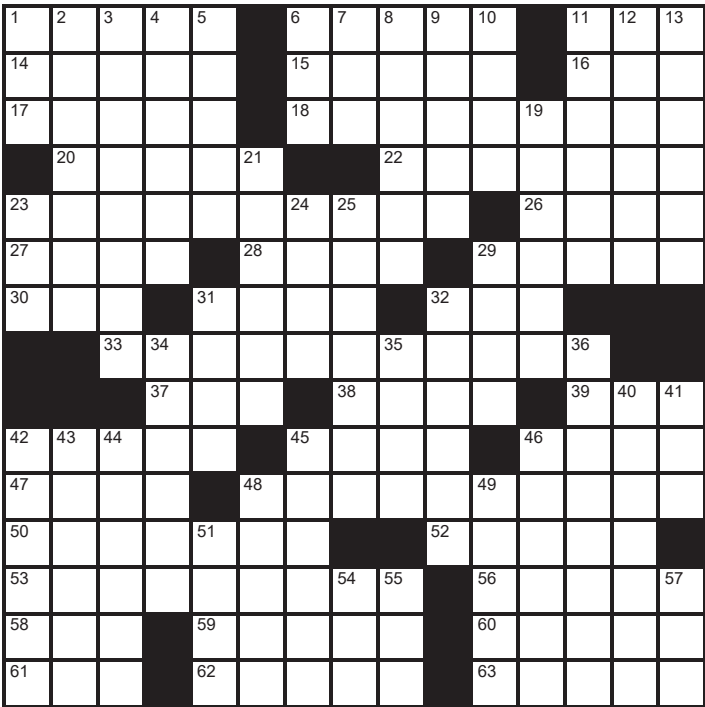
Signing Off

by Barbara Olson

© ClassiCanadian Crosswords

Across

- 1 Bend before in reverence
- 6 Controversial columns, at times
- 11 Heart murmur diagnostic
- 14 Dummy Mortimer of old radio
- 15 Screen resolution unit
- 16 Scratch the surface, maybe
- 17 Comic Lange or clarinetist Shaw
- 18 Kid's crush in an Anka song
- 20 Gala to be taken in?
- 22 Blasé reply to "How's work?"
- 23 "Use me however needed"
- 26 Spy wear?
- 27 Cap-___ (head-to-toe)
- 28 White-tailed shore bird
- 29 Standard methods: Abbr.
- 30 CFL game ailer
- 31 K-12 school, briefly
- 32 Saguenay street



Down

- 1 "Be Prepared" org.
- 2 Highway accesses
- 3 Warning not to touch a new coat?
- 4 Bar order after a really rough day
- 5 "Another Love" British pop singer
- 6 Cop force beyond the GTA
- 7 More, to a maestro
- 8 Be out of breath?
- 9 Floor divs. in The Bay
- 10 Stone and Stallone
- 11 Here's-how-I-feel images
- 12 Frolic youthfully
- 13 Loon-like swimmers
- 19 One with a brief, a case and a briefcase
- 21 Shoelace target
- 23 "Am ___ the right address?"
- 24 "What's Hecuba to him, ___ to Hecuba": Hamlet
- 25 Creature in an Irish Rovers classic
- 29 Seeks damages from
- 31 Start to a conclusion
- 32 Type of sale at Toyota
- 34 Control successfully
- 35 Leaking area on a ship?
- 36 The ologies
- 40 "The coast is clear"
- 41 Liquid-luncher, maybe
- 42 Netanyahu's country
- 43 Title realm of Hemingway's old man
- 44 Kind of party to seek?
- 45 Marathon for all levels
- 46 Steaks with a built-in dog treat
- 48 Posturepedic producer
- 49 "___ the judge"
- 51 Classic British sports cars
- 54 Mo. to begin a New Year's countdown
- 55 Sound of escaping air
- 57 Letter writer's afterthoughts

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LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

| | | | | | | | | |
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| 6 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 3 |
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| 14 | E | V | E | | 15 | W | H | A | L | E | R | | 16 | E | A | C | H | | | |
| 17 | Z | E | D | | 18 | F | O | R | D | P | I | | 19 | M | E | N | T | O | | |
| | 20 | R | E | | 21 | F | U | E | L | | | | 22 | C | A | T | G | U | T | |
| 23 | O | D | E | L | L | | 24 | E | S | E | | | 27 | B | E | L | A | S | | |
| 28 | H | O | M | E | L | | 29 | Y | M | A | C | | 30 | K | E | R | E | L | | |
| 31 | O | N | E | E | Y | E | | | | | 32 | U | R | A | L | | | | | |
| 33 | H | E | R | S | | | 34 | N | O | T | U | P | | 36 | B | U | R | N | | |
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| 50 | T | E | R | R | E | T | | | | | 52 | I | S | R | A | E | L | | | |
| 54 | P | O | L | A | R | B | | 55 | E | | 56 | A | M | E | R | | 57 | D | A | B |
| 59 | A | N | O | N | | | 60 | S | E | M | P | R | E | | | | 61 | T | R | I |
| 62 | R | E | T | D | | | 63 | P | L | A | Y | E | D | | | | 64 | O | S | T |



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SOLD

Twelve Mile Lake Road



A RARE FIND! 1677 feet of frontage and 6+ acres fronting on both beautiful Twelve Mile Lake & Little Boshkung Lake. This point lot is totally private & takes in multiple exposures & has stunning lake views. The historic "Strathcona Lodge" was located here. The original foundation is still present & has the potential to be built on. Two small historic cabins are also on the subject property. Don't miss this opportunity to build your dream home or getaway on one of the most peaceful settings in Haliburton County. **\$1,995,000.** Price is plus HST.

Kawagama Lake



Stunning south views across the lake. This property has a fantastic shoreline of mixed sand/gravel gradual entry to the water. Hydro is at the lot line and there is good cell service. This is easily accessible from either marina on the lake. Enjoy this affordable lot in the summer while you make your plans for your new cottage. Great fishing year-round and fantastic snowmobiling in the winter. **\$279,000**

SOLD

Wenona Lake Road



Looking for privacy in a large, spacious home on a year-round road, close to Haliburton Village? Stop looking! This amazing 4+bed/3 bath home on 50+ acres has everything you need. Warm wood finishes welcome you into a large eat-in kitchen, highlighted with the character and charm of an antique wood cookstove. Pantry for added storage. Two living rooms provide space for the whole family. A large garage with commercial size door offers amazing opportunities for the mechanically inclined. Hardwood forest with pretty trails for outdoor adventures. Enjoy more of the outdoors with Wenona Lake boat launch minutes away. **\$799,000.**

SOLD

Unicorn Road



Your opportunity for a secluded, peaceful off grid Haliburton retreat is here! This 237 acres is the perfect destination to enjoy nature's natural beauty. Fantastic trails throughout the property. Nestled amongst the trees with a tranquil view of one of the many ponds is a cute 22 x 22 cabin. The wood finishings throughout creates a warm and cozy feeling. Settle in and warm up in front of the wood burning stove. 24 x 24 detached garage is the ideal building to store all of your year round toys. Quick access to amenities in Haliburton Village and cell service throughout the property keeps you in the loop while enjoying your escape from the hustle and bustle. **\$549,000**

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